Wisconsin Department of Justice 17 W. Main Street P.O. Box 7857 Madison, WI 53707-7857

> Scott Walker Governor

Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen Co-Chair

> Secretary Edward F. Wall Co-Chair

## Wisconsin Criminal Justice Coordinating Council

2014 Annual Report

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## STATE OF WISCONSIN CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL

SCOTT WALKER, GOVERNOR

ATTORNEY GENERAL J.B. VAN HOLLEN, CO-CHAIR SECRETARY EDWARD F. WALL, CO-CHAIR

May 1, 2014

The Honorable Scott Walker Governor of Wisconsin State Capitol Building Madison, Wisconsin 53702 Wisconsin State Legislators State Capitol Building Madison, Wisconsin 53702

Dear Governor Walker and Members of the Legislature:

Following is the 2014 Annual Report for the Wisconsin Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC). As the Co-Chairs of the CJCC, we are pleased with the work of the council over the past year. Wisconsin has seen a number of significant events in the evolution of the criminal justice system to improve the provision of justice, holding offenders accountable and increasing public safety. The council is ideally positioned to continue to provide expert analysis and input into these efforts.

One of the notable developments of the past year is the great attention that has been paid to the Treatment Alternatives and Diversion Program, also known as "TAD." In the past 12 months, the TAD program has increased by 300% through increased appropriations in the state budget as well as 2013 Act 197. In conjunction with the new budget appropriations, the Department of Justice hosted a conference on TAD in August of 2013 and announced the expanded funds. The response from counties was impressive with 36 applications submitted representing 35 counties and one Native American Tribe. As a result of Act 197, the Department is currently performing another competitive application process to provide funding for additional TAD projects. Support for TAD has never been greater and the CJCC will continue to play an advisory role.

While the expanding TAD program is a significant Wisconsin development, the state has also seen an important national development: In January of 2014, the National Institute of Corrections held the Evidence-Based Decision Making Summit in Madison, Wisconsin. This national conference, co-hosted by the Wisconsin Department of Justice, marked the beginning of the next phase of NIC's Evidence-Based Decision Making Initiative. This initiative aims to utilize data and analysis to inform policy makers and criminal justice stakeholders to facilitate organizational change and evidence-based decisions in an effort to maximize public safety.

Wisconsin is playing an important role as a national model of how to improve criminal justice systems. The state CJCC and its subcommittees have become and will continue to serve as an integral advisory body. We look forward to the continued advancement of the council in the coming year.

Sincerely,

J.B. Van Hollen Attorney General Edward F. Wall

Secretary, Department of Corrections



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#### CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCILS

Designed to analyze the criminal justice system, a state or local Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) works to identify and address gaps and needs within the system through collaboration and strategic planning.

To address these gaps and needs, a CJCC brings together key decision makers in the criminal justice system – law enforcement, district attorneys, judges, public defenders, social service workers, victim advocates. The goal of CJCCs is to meet state or local justice needs in a world in which research and data can guide the way to safer communities, improved outcomes, reduced recidivism, and lower costs.

In Wisconsin, there exists both a state CJCC and many county CJCCs. Wisconsin's state CJCC, created through Executive Order #65, has a stated mission to "Facilitate the implementation of effective, data driven criminal justice policies and practices that maximize justice and the safety of the public." The state CJCC is not designed to manage or direct the local CJCCs, but instead aims to address state-level criminal justice issues, policies or programs.

In the past 12 months, the state CJCC took an official position of support on the expansion of Wisconsin's Treatment Alternatives and Diversion Program, supported and participated in the National Institute of Corrections' Evidence-Based Decision Making National Summit, and has explored with the Pew Center for the States the steps to establish a criminal justice and public policy research institute.

The state and local CJCCs provide an important opportunity for these key decision-makers to come together, establish a clear mission, adapt policies and programs that make more effective use of limited resources, implement documented evidence-based practices, and evaluate their practices to demonstrate effectiveness.

Local CJCCs use their collaborative nature to leverage limited resources to affect locally identified gaps and needs by applying evidence-based programs and practices that produce more effective results and lower financial costs. Within CJCCs, decision makers learn together about these practices, tailor approaches to improve or adapt them to local needs, and implement them locally within a framework that meets the unique needs of each community.

Currently, 38 of Wisconsin's 72 counties have a local CJCC. Over the coming year, this number is expected to increase as a number of counties look to the proven track record of CJCCs to help facilitate improvements and increase public safety in their local criminal justice systems. In addition, as a contingency for receiving funding, several counties are establishing new advisory councils. The state TAD program requires a recipient county to establish a local council. Also, as the State Administering Agency for federal Byrne Justice Assistance Grants (JAG), the Wisconsin Department of Justice, when considering grant applications from city and county partners, gives priority to applicants whose proposed projects have the support and involvement of their local CJCC.

#### **EVIDENCE-BASED DECISION MAKING INITIATIVE**

In January of 2014, the National Institute of Corrections held a national summit in Madison, Wisconsin on their Evidence-Based Decision Making Initiative. Co-hosted by the Wisconsin Department of Justice, the Summit signified the beginning of the next phase of the Initiative that is envisioned to link county level efforts to state level protocols and initiatives.

#### **BACKGROUND**

Since 2010, the National Institute of Corrections (NIC) has supported the implementation of local Evidence-Based Decision Making (EBDM) initiatives in Eau Claire and Milwaukee Counties, as well as five other communities across the nation. The purpose of NIC's assistance is to test and implement the *Evidence-Based Decision Making Framework*, which conceptualizes a criminal justice system guided by goals defined and shared by policymakers, decisions informed by research evidence, a collaborative policy development process, and ongoing data collection and analysis.

NIC has announced the launch of the next phase of this initiative – the development and pilot of statewide capacity building and implementation of a Statewide EBDM Protocol. The conduct of the *Wisconsin EBDM Summit* represented the first step in this exciting expansion of the EBDM Initiative. Technical assistance for statewide planning and implementation of EBDM is anticipated later in 2014 on a competitive basis. The State of Wisconsin, along with the other five states currently involved in the Initiative, will be eligible to apply for this technical assistance opportunity from NIC when it becomes available.

#### SUMMIT GOALS

In anticipation of the next phase of EBDM assistance as described above, NIC entered into a partnership with the State of Wisconsin to conduct the Wisconsin EBDM Summit. The purpose of the Summit was to share information with a broad group of state and local officials about the EBDM Framework. As such, the Summit addressed the importance of statewide evidence-based decision making to achieving improved criminal justice outcomes and reducing the harm that crime causes Wisconsin's communities. The Summit provided state and local officials with the foundational information needed to consider engaging in a statewide EBDM effort. The goals of the Summit were to:

- Define EBDM as an approach to sound justice system policy and practice.
- Emphasize a shared vision and goals for achieving harm reduction in Wisconsin communities.
- Present a roadmap for achieving statewide implementation of EBDM, including the state-local partnerships necessary to carry out such an approach.
- Define the activities already underway in Wisconsin that support an EBDM approach, as well as areas of potential advancement.
- Describe the process NIC will use to select its partner state for EBDM statewide implementation and what such a partnership will involve.

#### **PARTICIPANTS**

The Summit audience of 275 people included statewide officials and select counties and tribes in Wisconsin that operate multi-disciplinary criminal justice teams who are interested in participating in a statewide and county-based collaborative effort on evidence-based decision making.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For more information on the National Institute of Corrections-sponsored *Evidence-Based Decision Making in Local Justice Systems Initiative* ("EBDM"), visit: <a href="http://ebdmoneless.org">http://ebdmoneless.org</a> and <a href="http://ebdmoneless.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See: http://ebdmoneless.org/framework.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> NIC's current funding is limited to supporting the planning and conduct of the proposed statewide EBDM Summit.

NIC's statewide EBDM implementation requires a team of stakeholders representing state-level agencies (and decision points) to actively engage in the effort and serve as one of several ongoing EBDM policy teams. Such a team will include, at a minimum, those representing law enforcement, prosecution, defense, courts, corrections, parole release, behavioral health services, housing, transportation, victim advocacy and other services and functions key to the effective management and transition of offenders in the state criminal justice system. The State Criminal Justice Coordinating Council has been identified for this team as all of these system stakeholders are represented on the council. The State CJCC had tremendous participation in the Summit which exemplified the rising profile of the Council at both the state and now, national levels.

#### PHASES IV AND V

The goal of Phase IV of the EBDM Initiative is to equip and build capacity within interested, participating EBDM states (the six states with existing local pilots) to expand their EBDM efforts to include additional local jurisdictions and state-level colleagues. Phase IV activities will be two-fold. For participating states, it will be a period of time in which an in-state planning team will be formed to guide the identification/formation of additional EBDM local<sup>4</sup> teams and a state-level team, establish collaborative processes within and across teams, share knowledge about EBDM, and build capacity to undertake the work of the Framework. For the national initiative team, Phase IV will involve providing assistance to interested states in convening the in-state planning group, assessing their readiness for expanded EBDM work, educating those who have not previously been directly involved in EBDM work at the local level—and similar preparatory activities—while also building tools and protocols for implementation of EBDM on a statewide level. At the conclusion of Phase IV, at least one state<sup>5</sup> will be selected on a competitive basis to proceed to Phase V.<sup>6</sup>

As the next step in this process, in March of 2014, the co-chairs, on behalf of the full council, sent a letter to NIC expressing Wisconsin's desire to continue with the development and implementation of the Initiative on a state-wide level. In early April, NIC selected Wisconsin as one of five states to participate in Phase IV.

#### PEW-MACARTHUR RESULTS FIRST INITIATIVE

At the invitation of the State CJCC, the Pew-MacArthur Results First Initiative traveled to Wisconsin to present to the Council and invited guests on the establishment of a cost-benefit research institute. The initiative is a project of The Pew Charitable Trusts and the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, and works with states to implement an innovative cost-benefit analysis approach that helps them invest in policies and programs that are proven to work. 9

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> States may define "local teams" in the ways that are most appropriate for their structure, such that a local team may include a county, a city/county partnership, a judicial district, or some other structural definition.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Funding for at least one state is anticipated. The number of actual states that will receive assistance is subject to forthcoming funding allocations and decisions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Phase V will represent a similar process to the one the local EBDM teams experienced in Phase II. Its purpose will be to build a strong foundation of knowledge about evidence-based decision making principles and practices, assess current policies and practices against these principles, collect data and information, identify strengths in the current local and state systems, establish shared goals and system-wide performance measures, and build strategies to advance both outcomes and practices throughout the state.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> See Appendices for copy of letter from the CJCC Co-Chairs to NIC.

<sup>8</sup> http://community.nicic.gov/blogs/nic/archive/2014/04/15/five-states-selected-for-phase-iv-ebdm-initiative.aspx

<sup>9</sup> Results First in Your State, The Pew MacArthur Foundation, pewstates.org/resultsfirst

By estimating the long-term costs and benefits of investments in public programs, policy makers are able to compare options and identify those that most effectively achieve outcomes with the best value for taxpayers.

Results First is currently working with fourteen states to customize this approach to assess programs and inform policy and budget decisions in key areas, including adult criminal and juvenile justice, child welfare, education, mental health, and substance abuse. The model can be expanded to assess programs in additional policy areas over time.

If Wisconsin joins this Initiative, Results First's policy and technical assistance team will provide software at no cost and work with state staff to develop the model for Wisconsin. Results First staff will also support the Wisconsin team to analyze and present the results of the Wisconsin cost-benefit model.

Representatives from Results First attended the October 14, 2013 meeting of the Wisconsin Criminal Justice Coordinating Council and presented before the Council on the Initiative and its work in other states. Subsequently, at the January 22, 2014 meeting, the Council voted unanimously to move forward with this Initiative and seek from the governor and legislative leadership support and letters of invitation to Results First to move forward with the Initiative in Wisconsin.

#### **COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEES**

#### SUBCOMMITTEES

At the first meeting of the State CJCC Executive Committee in April of 2012, Co-Chair Van Hollen and then Co-Chair Hamblin, outlined their vision for the Council and how the Council would operate. It was established that the work of the Council would be performed by subcommittees as established by the Executive Committee. As the Council is the voting body, each subcommittee will report its recommendations to the Executive Committee and the full Council. There exist four subcommittees: Evidence-Based Practices; Problem Solving Courts; Data Sharing; and Outreach and Communications. The subcommittees include both members of the State CJCC as well as issue area experts.

#### **EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES**

Subcommittee Chair: David O'Leary, Rock County District Attorney

<u>Committee Charge:</u> To develop statewide criminal justice policy recommendations designed to increase public safety and reduce recidivism by strengthening the criminal justice system through the promotion of evidence-based practices and programmatic strategies for diversion and community-based alternatives to confinement.

The Evidence-Based Practices Subcommittee continued its work researching and supporting evidence-based practices in Wisconsin. To this end, the subcommittee, in partnership with the Problem Solving Courts Subcommittee, proffered the following motion to the full Council, which was in turn passed by the full Council:

Motion to support and encourage efforts that have been undertaken by subject matter experts to expand the eligibility, criteria, and research-based practice fundamentals of the Treatment Alternative and Diversion program.

In conjunction with the Pew MacArthur Results First Initiative's presentation to the full Council, the subcommittee held a meeting in October of 2013 to allow for a second presentation by Results First that detailed steps for Wisconsin to establish

a cost-benefit institute. Subsequently, at the December 2013 meeting, the subcommittee delivered to the full Council the following motion:

Motion to recommend to the full CJCC that moving forward with the Pew Results First Initiative be added to the agenda for the January 22, 2014 meeting, and that the CJCC request support of the governor and legislature.

#### PROBLEM SOLVING COURTS

Subcommittee Chair: Kelli Thompson, State Public Defender

<u>Committee Charge:</u> To research, evaluate and promote innovative criminal justice programming utilizing specialty courts and other judicial initiatives to address specific criminogenic behavior in order to reduce recidivism and improve public safety.

The Problem Solving Courts Subcommittee has been very active in reviewing and providing comments on the development of both national and state standards for adult drug courts. The subcommittee has heard a presentation from Outagamie County on their mental health court and from Kenosha County on their new behavioral health court. The subcommittee also reviewed and provided input on the funding announcement from the Department of Justice for the Treatment Alternative and Diversion expansion.

The subcommittee also reviewed the concept paper for a centralized, web-based data repository project within the Department of Justice to serve as a single database for multiple programs including TAD and the JAG-funded diversion/problem solving court programs. Such a single database would greatly enhance evaluation efforts of multiple programs. To this end, the subcommittee passed the following motion:

Motion to approve the recommendations and to pass the white paper [on a centralized data repository] on to the Executive Committee of the State CJCC.

The subcommittee also discussed two proposals before the legislature – one designed to provide grant funding for the provision of CIT training (SB 362/AB 450), and the second to provide additional funding to the TAD program to support projects designed to address mental health issues (SB 374/AB 457).

Motion was made to support the funding for Mental Health Courts of TAD and the CIT training and grant funding to the Executive Committee of the State CJCC then on to the full CJCC.

#### DATA SHARING

Subcommittee Chair: John Voelker, Director of State Courts

<u>Committee Charge:</u> The purpose of the subcommittee is to map existing criminal justice data systems and identify opportunities for data sharing that enhance system efficiency or facilitate reporting of Executive Order benchmarks or other key criminal justice performance measures.

The Data Sharing and Benchmarks Subcommittees were combined into a single subcommittee. Work of the two subcommittees was divided between two workgroups representing the former subcommittees: Data-Sharing and Benchmarks. The subcommittee now generates its work product through these two workgroups.

The Data Sharing Subcommittee began reviewing data dashboard systems that provide functionality similar to what may be desired in performing data reporting of criminal justice system metrics. The subcommittee also reviewed gaps in the system for assigning/reporting/distributing a State Identification Number and Arrest Tracking Number. As a result of this work, in November of 2013, the subcommittee passed the following motion:

Motion to recommend the State CJCC support an effort to consider modifications to state statutes 165.83 and 165.84 that would expand those offenses that are required to be reported to the Department of Justice, and would require the use of the Arrest Tracking Number.

The subcommittee also began compiling data associated with metrics identified in the Executive Order. Historical data back to 2005 was gathered and then presented to the Council.

#### **OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Subcommittee Chair: Mark Abeles-Allison, Bayfield Co. Administrator

<u>Committee Charge:</u> To effectively communicate the work of the Council to and regularly obtain input from members of the public and criminal justice stakeholders across the state and implement strategies to ensure open communication between county CJCCs and the WI CJCC.

The Subcommittee produced a promotional video on local CJCCs. The video was posted on the National Institute of Corrections' website and was also presented at the Wisconsin Chiefs of Police Association summer conference. The subcommittee also developed a PowerPoint that has been made available to members of the full Council for presentation to stakeholder conferences and meetings. In an effort to promote local CJCC activity, the subcommittee developed a model press release that can be utilized by the local councils to increase public awareness of the work being done by the councils to promote justice system innovation and public safety.

#### JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANTS STRATEGIC PLANNING

#### BYRNE JAG PROGRAM

The Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) program is one of several justice assistance programs administered by the Office of Justice Assistance (OJA) as Wisconsin's State Administering Agency (SAA). The Byrne JAG program was created in 2005 through the combination of the Edward Byrne Memorial Formula Grant (Byrne Formula) and the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant (LLEBG). According to the Federal Bureau of Justice Assistance, the JAG program is the leading source of federal justice funding to state and local jurisdictions. A highly flexible program, JAG funds can be utilized within seven specified purpose areas:

- Law Enforcement Programs
- Prosecution and Court Programs
- Prevention and Education Programs
- Corrections and Community Corrections Programs
- Drug Treatment and Enforcement Programs
- Planning, Evaluation, and Technology Improvement Programs

Crime Victim Witness Programs (excluding compensation)

These flexibility and broad purpose areas allow states and locals to direct funding within their jurisdictions to identified needs. States and locals can use the funding to address resource gaps within their criminal justice systems, initiate new justice programs, or respond to an unanticipated development within the justice system.

The JAG formula is based on a combination of a state's population and violent crime rate. Specifically, a state JAG award is based 50% on the state's portion of the nation's population and 50% on the state's share of the average number of reported violent crimes, as collected by the state's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program. However, each state is guaranteed a minimum award amount. If a state's JAG formula calculation does not meet the guaranteed minimum funding level, the state receives the minimum award. Of a state's total allocation, 40% is awarded directly to units of local government.

During the four years prior to the establishment of the combined Byrne JAG program, Wisconsin received an annual average award of \$9,548,363 between the Byrne and the LLEBG programs. Since 2005, Wisconsin's annual award under the Byrne JAG program – which fluctuates from year to year – has been on a declining trajectory with an average award of \$3,859,299 – a 60% reduction in the total award amount since 2005.

#### HISTORY OF JAG STRATEGIC PLANNING

In March of 2010, states were notified by the Federal Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) that the implementation of a strategic planning process for JAG funds would be required. BJA directed that:

"States should develop and undertake a strategic planning process, using a community engagement model, in order to guide spending under this and future fiscal year allocations." Further, "BJA strongly encourages state and local planners to fund programs that are evidence-based and have been proven effective. In the current difficult budgetary climate, it is more critical than ever that JAG dollars are spent on programs with proven effectiveness."

In response to this new requirement, the former Office of Justice Assistance (OJA) established the JAG Planning Committee in the fall of 2010 consisting of representatives from across the criminal justice system and from throughout the State of Wisconsin. The Committee included representatives from: The Department of Corrections, District Attorneys, Sheriffs, Local Police Chiefs, County Administration, the Department of Justice, Circuit Courts, the State Public Defender's Office, and local criminal justice research partners.

In initiating the planning process, the Committee reviewed information from OJA on previously-funded and current subgrantees. In addition, current sub-grantees presented to the Committee on their programs and how their JAG funding impacts the criminal justice system. In addition, an online survey of criminal justice stakeholders was developed to gather information about criminal justice priorities. The statewide survey developed by OJA with the Planning Committee was distributed to District Attorneys, Public Defenders, Circuit Court Judges, local CJCC Coordinators, Sheriffs, Chiefs of Police, County AODA Coordinators, CASA Local Directors, and Department of Corrections Regional Directors.

All of the information gathered by JAG Planning Committee was utilized to develop a comprehensive list of justice priorities which the Committee then ranked. The Committee identified its top seven statewide priorities for Byrne JAG funding for federal fiscal years 2011-2014:

1. Initiatives to reduce drug crime by allocating resources to multijurisdictional drug enforcement task forces that actively enforce illegal drug manufacturing and distribution laws; that support crime prevention programs; that

initiate and implement information sharing; and that allow for effective communication and collaboration among outside law enforcement jurisdictions.

- 2. Programs that minimize criminal justice exposure for low-risk offenders. These programs will allow offenders to receive the services they need in the community while increasing the availability of limited justice system resources to concentrate on more serious or violent criminal behaviors.
- The further development of a centralized criminal justice data collection and analysis unit that will enhance the
  ability to effectively collaborate, identify evidence-based practices and will facilitate effective criminal justice policy
  decisions.
- 4. Efforts to provide effective community-based drug and alcohol treatment to abusers who have entered the criminal justice system.
- 5. Promoting technology improvements and coordinating automated justice information and data systems that are compatible among local and state justice partners.
- 6. Initiatives to improve responses to persons with mental illness who are at risk of incarceration or in contact with the criminal justice system, and focus on collaborative efforts that identify gaps in services for both the mental health and criminal justice systems.
- 7. Programs that identify and target criminogenic factors for medium and high risk offenders. Appropriate identification of offenders' risk and needs reduces recidivism when targeted services are directed at specific criminogenic factors.

The JAG planning committee created the overarching goal of funding projects that are evidence-based, collaborative in nature, community-based, and those which include an evaluation component. As economic challenges force states and local communities to look at new ways to address issues in the criminal justice system, it is critical to prioritize JAG funds in order to effectively utilize resources to implement the current research demonstrating successful outcomes. Funding decisions have been made based on the seven established priorities by maximizing competitive grant solicitations for local communities.

#### WISCONSIN STATE CJCC JAG PLANNING PROCESS

In addition to the federal requirement that a state must have a strategic planning process for the administration of Byrne JAG, section 4(j) of Executive Order #65 states that the Wisconsin Criminal Justice Coordinating Council shall

"Provide strategic planning and guidance for the management of federal block grant or federal formula grant funds."

To comply with the federal planning requirement and section 4(j) of Executive Order #65, the State CJCC implemented a strategic planning process under the supervision of the Council.

In 2013, the Council approved creation of a JAG Planning Workgroup. This workgroup is tasked with developing a plan and funding priorities for JAG awards beginning with the federal fiscal year 2015 (FFY15) award. The workgroup is comprised of agency experts from the Department of Corrections, the Department of Justice, the Director of State Courts Office, the Department of Health Services, the State Public Defender, and the Department of Children and Families. During the second half of 2014 the workgroup will develop a draft plan and funding priorities to be reviewed by the State CJCC and modified by the Council as necessary. Pending final approval by the State CJCC, the list of funding priorities would be adopted by the

State Administering Agency (SAA) as an advisory document detailing the categories to be addressed in the administration of the Byrne JAG federal formula funds.

#### LETTER TO NIC FROM CJCC CO-CHAIRS



# STATE OF WISCONSIN CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL

SCOTT WALKER, GOVERNOR

ATTORNEY GENERAL J.B. VAN HOLLEN, CO-CHAIR SECRETARY EDWARD F. WALL, CO-CHAIR

March 24, 2014

Jim Cosby, Chief National Institute of Corrections, Community Services Division

Dear Mr. Cosby,

On behalf of the State Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC), we are writing to formally express our interest in advancing Evidence-Based Decision Making (EBDM) in the State of Wisconsin by pursuing the goals of Phase IV and V of the Initiative.

The State of Wisconsin is committed to move forward with this exciting initiative. At the state level, the State CJCC, established in April, 2012, has brought together key state and local decision-makers as a collaborative body to assess the criminal justice system and improve system outcomes. Additionally, the State CJCC has established four subcommittees, which are working on projects that tie-in directly with the goals of the EBDM Initiative. These subcommittees include Data Sharing/Benchmarks, Evidence-Based Practices, Problem-Solving Courts, and Outreach and Communication.

Even more importantly, the State of Wisconsin has an established network of local Criminal Justice Coordinating Councils. Currently, 38 of Wisconsin's 72 counties have a formalized CJCC, with more in the planning stages. These local CJCCs are the primary vehicles for key decision-makers to come together, establish a clear mission, adapt policies and programs that make more effective use of limited resources, implement documented evidence-based practices, and evaluate their practices to demonstrate effectiveness.

Perhaps nowhere is the importance of these local CJCCs more evident than in the experiences of Milwaukee and Eau Claire Counties. Wisconsin is unique among the EBDM states, having two local sites participating in the Initiative. These counties' local CJCCs have been central to the advancement of EBDM in their local jurisdictions. The experiences of these two geographically and culturally diverse counties have already assisted other jurisdictions and informed policy in Wisconsin. They will

continue to assist the advancement of EBDM in Wisconsin both as crucial members of the EBDM Statewide Planning Team, and as a resource in sharing their experiences to mentor other teams in implementing the EBDM framework in their local criminal justice systems.

Another development positioning the State of Wisconsin for success with the Initiative is that through the state budget process, the Treatment Alternatives and Diversion (TAD) program, historically funded at ~\$1 million, has been increased to ~\$2.5 million (with additional increases being discussed). This increase further expands evidence-based practices and programs to additional counties throughout the state. The TAD program is coordinated by the Wisconsin Departments of Justice, Corrections, and Health Services and with the participation of the Director of State Courts Office. TAD projects include a broad spectrum of activities ranging from pre-trial diversion at the initial prosecutorial decision making stage, to drug courts, to alternatives to revocation, all based on local needs and project design requirements. The application of EBDM principles and practices will be integral to this program expansion.

Finally, the State CJCC is pursuing a number of initiatives that will enhance the state's criminal justice data and research capabilities. A priority for the CJCC is developing a state data dashboard to allow criminal justice system performance to be measured. The CJCC is also pursuing technical assistance in cost-benefit analysis through the Pew-MacArthur Results First Initiative. Another project is underway to develop a web-based integrated data system for use by diversion programs and problem-solving courts statewide to capture participant-level data for evaluation purposes. These data initiatives will provide a key foundation for the priorities of research and data analysis of the EBDM Initiative.

The necessary stakeholder support for the Initiative already exists in Wisconsin. The participation of 22 counties (and over 250 participants) at the EBDM Summit in January is evidence of the interest and commitment of local communities in advancing this Initiative at the local level in Wisconsin. A follow up survey and discussions with local CJCC coordinators to formalize this local stakeholder support reiterated this interest. In addition, through their work as part of the EBDM Summit Planning Team, the state already has an experienced team of representatives from throughout the criminal justice system as a starting point for the creation of the Statewide Project Planning Team for Phase IV of the Initiative.

Following the webinar presented by National Institute of Corrections on February 11, local and state stakeholders were consulted regarding participation in Phase IV of the EBDM Initiative through meetings of the State CJCC's Problem-Solving Courts and Evidence-Based Practices Subcommittees on February 14. The multidisciplinary team of representatives for the State of Wisconsin who participated in the webinar was also invited to participate in these discussions. Membership of these subcommittees represents all facets of the state and local criminal justice system. During these discussions, both subcommittees were enthusiastic in support of moving forward with the Initiative, with the Evidence-Based Practices Subcommittee taking the lead in unanimously approving a motion for the State CJCC to move forward with Phase IV of the Evidence-Based Decision Making Initiative by submitting a letter of interest to NIC.

To serve as the state EBDM Coordinator and point of contact for Phase IV of the Initiative, the Director of State Courts' Office of Court Operations has revised an existing policy analyst position to include this new role. This Evidence-Based Practices Specialist position is currently being recruited with a projected start date of May 1, 2014. Although currently vacant, this position within the Office of Court Operations brings credibility to the Initiative through a number of existing roles and responsibilities. As the staff coordinator for the Effective Justice Strategies (EJS) Subcommittee of the Wisconsin Supreme Court's Planning and Policy Advisory Committee (PPAC), as well as a member of the State CJCC's Evidence-Based Practices Subcommittee, the Evidence-Based Practices Specialist will be well-positioned to coordinate the Statewide Planning Team for Phase IV of the EBDM Initiative. This

position also serves as a statewide resource for local CJCCs and coordinates a clearinghouse and directory of local CJCC information. Through this new recruitment, these existing roles will be supplemented by an increased emphasis on experience in evidence-based decision making and in providing technical assistance. Until this position is filled, the interim point of contact will be John Voelker, Director of State Courts, john.voelker@wicourts.gov or (608) 266-6828.

Thank you for your consideration of the State of Wisconsin's interest in pursuing the Phase IV and Phase V of the Evidence-Based Decision Making Initiative. For the reasons stated in this letter, we feel that Wisconsin is exceptionally well-positioned to be successful in carrying out the goals of the Initiative, and we look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

J.B. Van Hollen Attorney General Edward F. Wall Secretary, Department of Corrections

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE 17 W. MAIN STREET • P.O. BOX 7070 • MADISON, WI 53707-7070 • (608) 266-8800 • FAX: (608) 266-7869



# STATE OF WISCONSIN CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL

SCOTT WALKER, GOVERNOR

ATTORNEY GENERAL J.B. VAN HOLLEN, CO-CHAIR SECRETARY EDWARD F. WALL, CO-CHAIR

March 6, 2014

The Honorable Scott Walker Governor of Wisconsin State Capitol Building Madison, WI 53702

Dear Governor Walker,

As Co-Chairs of the State Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, we are seeking your support for an initiative that both furthers the goal of the Council to make the criminal justice system a better investment in maximizing public safety, and addresses your priorities of achieving better performance and a more efficient government in Wisconsin.

The Pew-MacArthur Results First Initiative (Results First) works with states to implement an innovative cost-benefit analysis approach that enables investment in policies and programs that are proven to work. By estimating the long-term costs and benefits of investments in public programs, policy makers are able to compare options and identify those that most effectively achieve outcomes with the best value for taxpayers.

Results First is currently working with fourteen states to customize this approach to assess programs and inform policy and budget decisions in key areas, including adult criminal and juvenile justice, child welfare, education, mental health, and substance abuse. The model can be expanded to assess programs in additional policy areas over time. The attached documents provide further information on this Initiative.

If Wisconsin joins this Initiative, Results First's policy and technical assistance team will provide software at no cost and work with state staff to develop the model for Wisconsin. Results First staff will

also support the Wisconsin team to analyze and present the results of the Wisconsin cost-benefit model.

Representatives from Results First attended the October 14, 2013 meeting of the Wisconsin Criminal Justice Coordinating Council and presented before the Council on the Initiative and its work in other states. Subsequently, at our January 22, 2014 meeting, the Council voted unanimously to move forward with this Initiative and seek from you and legislative leadership, support and letters of invitation to Results First to move forward with the Initiative in Wisconsin.

We look forward to the opportunity to discuss this Initiative with you further.

Sincerely,

J.B. Van Hollen Attorney General

Edward F. Wall Secretary, Department of Corrections

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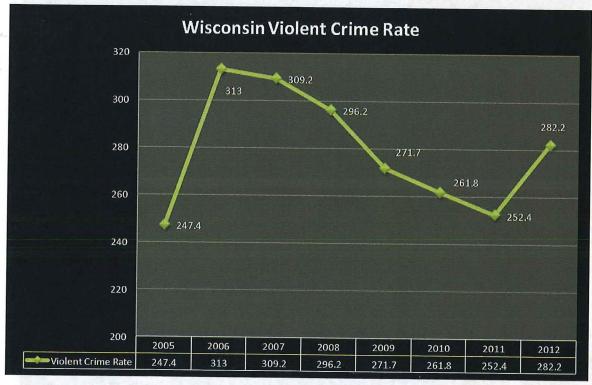
## **Criminal Justice Coordinating Council**



October 14, 2013

## **Data and Benchmarks Subcommittee Report**

A) The rate of violent crime as reported by law enforcement in Uniform Crime Reports (UCR) or incident-based reporting.



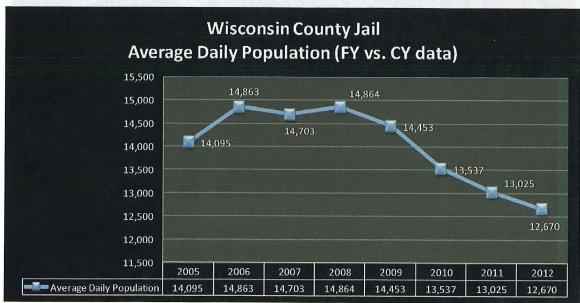
The above are violent crime rates reported by Wisconsin law enforcement agencies through the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program. These crime rates are calculated as crimes per 100,000 residents, using prior year population data.

### **Criminal Justice Coordinating Council**



B) The aggregate average daily populations of county jails and prisons.

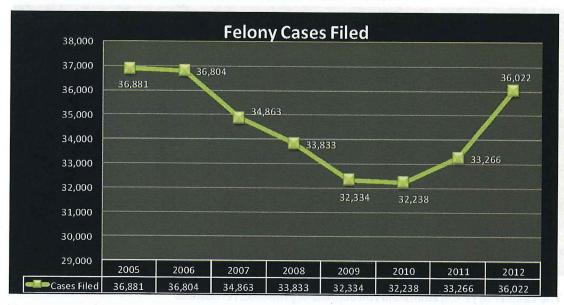




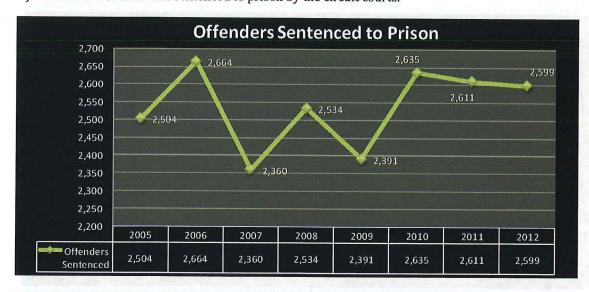
## **Criminal Justice Coordinating Council**



C) The aggregate number of felony criminal cases filed in circuit courts .



D) The number of offenders sentenced to prison by the circuit courts.



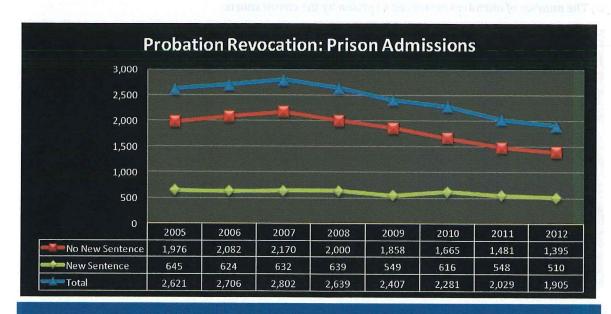
### **Criminal Justice Coordinating Council**



E) The number of prison admissions on account of revocation of parole and extended supervision.



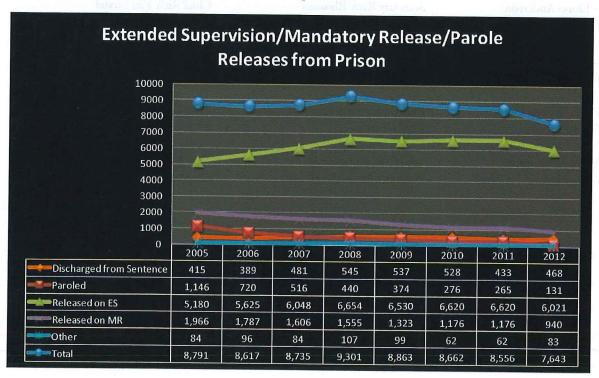
F) The number of prison admissions on account of probation revocation.



## **Criminal Justice Coordinating Council**



G) The number of releases on parole or extended supervision.



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Director John Voelker

Director John Murray<sup>12</sup>

Office of Justice Assistance

Patti Jo Severson

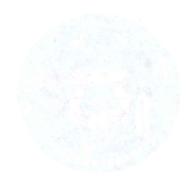
Gunderson Lutheran Medical Center

<sup>10</sup> Chief Keil resigned as a member on March 28, 2014

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Term ended July 31, 2013

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Director Murray resigned as a member on May 10, 2013

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Term began August 1, 2013





This is a publication of the Wisconsin Department of Justice

PO BOX 7857 Madison, WI 53707-7857

Phone: (608) 266-1221
On the web at http://www.doj.state.wi.us/

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